

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 22-25 are presently pending and stand rejected. Claims 19-21 are cancelled without prejudice. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kono in view of Setoguchi.

Claim 1 recites, among other limitations, "wherein determining when to overwrite the existing image further comprises determining when the existing image has finished display for the last time and is no longer needed for decoding other images". Assignee respectfully submits that the combination of Kono in view of Wu does not teach the foregoing.

Examiner has indicated that Kono is not explicit about "determining when to overwrite an existing image in the image buffers and providing a signal to the decoder indicating when to overwrite the existing image in the frame buffer wherein the decoder overwrites the existing image after receiving the signal; and wherein the decoded images are provided for display in the forward order at normal speed; wherein at least some of the pictures are stored for at least display period after the at least some of the pictures are display".

However, the Office Action indicates that "Setoguchi et al discloses in (figs. 1 and 2, decoding means 105, reproduced picture area managing means 109, reproduced picture memory 107, display picture deciding means 106). On (fig. 5 and page 2, [0018]) the decoded images are provided for display in the forward order at normal speed.

Assignee respectfully traverses the rejection because the combination of Kono in view of Stoguchi does not teach "determining when the existing image has finished display for the last time and is no longer needed for decoding other images". Although Setoguchi teaches "reproduced picture area managing means 109", Setoguchi teaches "a digital motion picture decoding method which require a short time before displaying the reproduced picture data...". However, the foregoing does not teach "determining when the existing image has finished display for the last time and is *no longer* needed for decoding other images". Note that the claim language's use of "has finished display for the last time" is clearly not referring to the period of time before display. Additionally, reducing the time before displaying the reproduced picture data does not read on "determining ... is no longer needed for decoding other images", because an image can be needed for decoding other images after display.

Accordingly, Assignee respectfully requests that Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1 and 13, as well as the dependent claims.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Assignee respectfully submits all of the pending claims are in a condition for allowance, thereby placing the application in a condition for allowance. It is believed that there is no fee associated with any of the actions requested herein. To the extent that there is any fee associated with any actions requested herein, the Commissioner is requested to charge such fee to deposit account 13-0017.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED



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